

Comparison Document

Locations On The 2002 Integrated List Of All Waterbodies Listed In New Jersey's 1998 List Of Water Quality Limited Waters [Section 303(d)]

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Introduction

This document presents a series of tables which indicate in which sublists (1 through 5) on the 2002 Integrated List all waters previously listed in New Jersey's 1998 303(d) List are now located and the justifications for these listings.

This document includes a copy of the 1998 List itself (Appendix) with a slight modification to facilitate its use. The original Final 1998 List was divided into 3 sub-lists (I, IIA and IIB) based upon the degree of confidence in the overall assessments. This resulted in the chemistry listings (minus metals) being one table, and the macroinvertebrate and heavy metal listing comprising two other tables. This meant that to review the status of a single waterway, the user was required to check several tables to assess all listings of the waterbody in question. In this "Comparison Document" the sub-tables have all been recombined so that all the listing for the Whippany River, for example, are all together in one location.

The various types of listings contained in the 1998 303(d) List are divided into the following categories:

1. Chemical/Physical and shellfish listings (excluding lakes), coastal/tidal waters.
2. Listings based upon benthic macroinvertebrate assessments.
3. All lake listings.

These categories each have unique listing and delisting criteria, hence they are presented and discussed separately. These three categories in turn correspond to Sections within this document. If, for example, one sees a lead listing in the Appendix or in their copy of the 1998 303 (d) List, they would need to go to Section 1 of this document to see the current status of the listing on the 2002 Integrated List and its associated justification if it was delisted.

Below is a summary of the delisting rationales employed in generating the 2002 Integrated List. Delisting here means that a waterway originally listed in the 1998 List is now located on sublist 1 through 4 but has no issue (designated use or parameter) listed under sublist 5. Sublist 5 represents the current New Jersey 2002 303(d) List. These issues are discussed in further detail within each section of this document as they apply to each of the three categories of listings contained in the 1998 List. For detailed information and data summaries for each monitoring location as represented on the 2002 Integrated List, which forms the basis of the decision to list or delist, the reader is referred to Appendix II of the 305(b) portion of the Integrated List Package.

SUMMARY OF DELISTING RATIONAL

For waters previously listed on New Jersey's 303(d) Lists, delineated below are the various scenarios that can result in a waterbody being removed from a 2002 303(d) listing (sublist 5).

1. A determination is made that the waterbody is meeting water quality standards (i.e., no TMDL is required). For example:
 - A. An error was made in the initial listing causing an erroneous listing;
 - B. New Information: More recent and/or more accurate data which meets the QA/QC requirements identified in Section 3.2 of this Methods Document demonstrates that a designated uses or SWQ criteria are being met for the waterbody (with or without a TMDL);
 - C. Revisions to the SWQSs may cause a waterbody to come into compliance with standards or no water quality standard exists.
2. Reassessment of available information or data: Waterbody listed on previous 303d list is based on data, which is insufficient to meet current data quality requirements. Some examples:
 - A. New Macro-Invertebrate Protocol: Macroinvertebrate data had been collected under conditions not calibrated to reference conditions specified in the sampling protocol. See Section 2 within this document for detailed information.
 - B. Criterion not measurable.
 - C. Sufficient data not available (i.e. frequency, number of samples or QA/QC requirements not met).
3. TMDL has been completed. A waterbody will be removed from Sublist 5 and placed in Sublist 4A once a TMDL, which is expected to result in full attainment of the SWQS, has been developed and approved by EPA.
4. Other pollution control requirements are reasonably expected to result in the attainment of the water quality standard in the near future. These requirements must be specifically applicable to the particular water quality problem. This includes the installation of new control equipment or elimination of discharges.
5. Impairment is not caused by a pollutant.
6. New spatial extent – When sufficient data warrants, waterbodies previously listed on a large scale may be broken down into smaller assessment units and placed in other sublists, if appropriate. Waterbodies listed based on 304(l) listings and previously identified by RF1 segments will be identified by the station causing the original listing when station information is available.
7. Natural causes - Waters that exceed standards but drain wilderness or similar areas and it can be documented that there are no contributing human contributions that could contribute to the standard exceedence.